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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

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MESSAGE

Resolution adopted by the Sanilac County Board of Commissioners in opposition of "Gearing Toward Integration" legislation proposed by Senator Shirkey.

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COUNTY OF SANILAC, MICHIGAN**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION**

WHEREAS, the Sanilac County Board of Commissioners has entered into an enabling resolution to create the Sanilac County Community Mental Health Authority pursuant to Section 100 et seq. and Section 205 of the Mental Health Code, 1974 PA 258, as amended (MCL330.1100 et seq; MCL330.1205); and

WHEREAS, Sanilac County Community Mental Health (Sanilac CMH) is a community mental health authority of the county of Sanilac, organized under the terms of Section 204(a) of the Michigan Mental Health Code (the Code), (MCL330.1204[a]); and

WHEREAS, Section 116(b) of the Code (MCL330.1116[b]) requires that the Department of Community Health shift primary responsibility for the direct delivery of public mental health services from the state to a community mental health services program whenever the community mental health services program has demonstrated a willingness and capacity to provide an adequate and appropriate system of mental health services for the citizens of that service area; and

WHEREAS, Sanilac CMH has demonstrated such willingness and capacity to provide a broad array of innovative, cutting edge, community mental health services for over the past 50 years and is properly certified as a community mental health services program under the terms of Section 232(a) of the Code (MCL330.1232[a]); and

WHEREAS, the biggest concerns with Senator's Gearing Toward Integration Proposal and subsequent changes proposed to the Michigan Social Welfare Act are that it will privatize the public mental health system and essentially eliminate the public safety net and would make Sanilac CMH just another provider for the managed care entity, which is a dramatic shift from what they do today; and

WHEREAS, the proposed plan speaks to requirements for creating a new entity that will become a Medicaid Health Plan and is silent to all the roles and responsibilities of the current system that are core to the social determinants, safety net role and community collaborative work of the public system, and

WHEREAS, the proposal talks about a more uniform benefit structure, however by allowing for a multiple entity per region approach, this does not provide uniformity with benefits. The Medicaid Health Plans will not provide the same benefits across regions and the state like they do today, and

WHEREAS, the proposal lacks public oversight and accountability. It eliminates the PIHP system and dramatically reduces the role of the CMH system and all but eliminates public accountability, and

WHEREAS, this proposal does not eliminate layers as Medicaid Health Plans will pick up the managed care functions from PIHPs at a much higher cost (15% vs. 6%) which will mean this money will be removed from the care that people are receiving today.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sanilac County Board of Commissioners strongly urges its State Senate and House of Representatives to oppose Senator's Gearing Toward Integration Proposal and subsequent changes proposed to the Michigan Social Welfare Act which would privatize the public mental health system and essentially eliminate the public safety net; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sanilac County Board of Commissioners supports Sanilac County Community Mental Health Authority as a public behavioral health system that provides necessary community safety net services and supports; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be provided to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senator Dan Lauwers (25th District), Representative Andrew Beeler (83rd District), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Elizabeth Hertel, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration Deputy Director Dr. George Mellos, the Michigan Association of Counties and all Michigan counties.

Dated: 06/15/21


Chairperson
Sanilac County Board of Commissioners